

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)REPORT NO. TOPIC Soviet Troops in GeraEVALUATION 25X1XPLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED PREPARED 12 March 1952REFERENCES PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS RETURN TO CIA
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- About 24 February 1952, the Reuss Kaserne in Gera (K 51/K 06) was occupied to capacity. A German working in the installation said that there were 3,000 to 3,500 troops there. All of the troops were restricted to quarters and forbidden to drink alcoholic beverages. The newly arrived troops in the installation included about 80 officers and men who wore red-bordered black epaulets without branch-of-service insignia. Nine trucks towing 76.2-mm AT guns were seen moving out of the Reuss Kaserne on 13 February.

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Two of the trucks carried 30 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets. Crews of eight soldiers practiced aiming and loading with two artillery pieces of about 100-mm in the barracks yard. Officers with artillery insignia were brought to the billeting area in sedan which made six trips. About 2,200 troops were seen assembling in the barracks yard on 23 February. More troops were still in their quarters.

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- No changes in the occupation of the barracks installation in Gera-Tinz were determined prior to 23 February.
- Prior to 15 February, the Panzer Kaserne in Gera-Tinz still quartered the unit from Weimar which consisted only of officers and NCOs who had not been seen performing any routine duties. Source had the impression that only classroom instruction was held in the installation.
- Prior to 15 February, the Reuss Kaserne quartered about 1,300 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. A German working in the installation said that the easternmost, villa-like building in the billeting area housed a brigade headquarters. Source himself believed that the Reuss Kaserne quartered only one unit in addition to the aforementioned headquarters. Several trucks on blocks were noticed in an open garage on 9 February. Three AT guns of about

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85-mm stood in the barracks yard on 11 February. About 200 troops from the Rauss Kaserne practiced the throwing of hand grenades and aiming with rifles in the area northwest of Welsweg from 8 to 10 a.m. on that day. *

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* [REDACTED] Comment. The two sources confirm the unidentified AT artillery brigade of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps in the Rauss Kaserne, Gera. The headquarters and two regiments of this brigade are carried in Gera.

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[REDACTED] The brigade's third regiment probably moved to Rudolstadt. Source of paragraph 1 has repeatedly mentioned newly arrived units with tanks in the Panzer Kaserne since November 1951. With the exception of the training unit from Weimar-Mohra which, according to the source of paragraph 3, is located in the Panzer Kaserne, there have been no definite indications as to any other units which might have been transferred to Gera. [REDACTED]

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